

“Making Climate Finance Work for Women”

Recommendations for strong and gender-responsive climate finance

December 11, 2017

The “*One Planet Summit*” provides a key opportunity to build the momentum for increased climate finance, and in particular finance which addresses the needs of the world’s 2 billion poorest people who bear the brunt of climate impacts, among whom women and girls represent a majority.

The first-ever **UNFCCC Gender Action Plan**¹ adopted at COP23 in Bonn in November 2017 provides another incentive for all stakeholders to promote gender equality in adaptation and mitigation actions, climate decision-making and means of implementation. As of 2015, only 0.01% of all worldwide funding supports projects that tackle both climate change and gender inequalities².

We, the undersigned, strongly encourage the international community to:

- **Significantly scale up public climate finance**, specifically grants for adaptation, **and ensure that by 2020, at least 20% of all projects funded through climate finance mechanisms have a primary goal of reducing gender inequalities**. Starting immediately, no public climate funds should consider any project proposals for funding that do not include significant gender equality considerations.
- **Develop and replicate mechanisms to significantly increase direct access to smaller scale finance, both grants and loans for community level**. Small-scale investments, especially for women’s groups and women entrepreneurs, have the potential to achieve tangible results and to play a key role in sustainable in-country transformation.
- **Ensure gender equality and women’s empowerment are anchored as cross-cutting guiding principles in all climate funds, through:**
 - o *Establishing a gender policy and adopting a gender action plan*, based on the successful examples of the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, and the Adaptation Fund. Such a gender policy and gender action plan should be based on a human rights approach and address the intersectionality of existing gender inequalities by also taking into account factors such as race, age, class, disability or religion. Gender equality principles should be integrated in the development of funding, accreditation, and programming guidelines and considered in programme and project review as well as the monitoring, reporting, verification and evaluation of a mechanism funding portfolio.
 - o *Aiming for a gender balance and increased gender expertise in their respective Boards, technical advisory bodies and panels, and among their staff in general.*

¹ <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2017/sbi/eng/l29.pdf>

² IUCN and GGCA (2015), « Roots for the Future »

- **Urge all climate finance mechanisms to establish clear gender criteria in screening proposals and assessing performance** for all projects. Such criteria should include a mandatory gender and social analysis, a fully costed project specific gender action plan, a gendered budget and some clear quantitative and qualitative indicators measuring how projects contribute to gender equality objectives. The systematic generation and collection of gender-disaggregated data and the full and meaningful participation of women throughout the project cycle should be made mandatory.
- **Increase the accountability of climate finance mechanisms for gender equality results of their funding** through the establishment of portfolio indicators, budget accounting and audits, periodic independent third-party reviews and through increased external communication and public reporting efforts.
- **Promote women’s participation in climate fund-related country coordinating mechanisms** to determine national funding priorities.
- **Commit to provide adequate resources to ensure the implementation of the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan** and to support the work of the UNFCCC Secretariat Gender Team.
- **Ensure that the Agreed Conclusions of 62nd session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women** to be held in March 2018 and focused on “*Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls*” **call for increased support for the adaptation work of rural women**, who represent the majority of small-scale farmers in developing countries, and whose livelihoods are disproportionately affected by climate change.

List of first signatories (as of December 11th) :

Adéquations, France	Gender and Environmental Risk Reduction Initiative, Nigéria
All India Women's Education Fund Association, India	GenderCC - Women for Climate Justice, International
Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, Thailand	Genre en Action, France
Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Malaysia	GEVALOR, France
Association pour la Promotion des Femmes Scientifiques Vietnamiennes, France	Grupo Para o Desenvolvimento da Mulher e Rapariga, Mozambique
Association pour la Protection de l'Environnement et le Développement Durable de Bizerte, Tunisia	Heinrich Böll Stiftung North America, Etats Unis
Business and Professional Women International, France et International	Kirinda Youth Environmental Management and Poverty Alleviation Program Uganda, Uganda
Cadire Cameroon Association, Cameroon	Italian Climate Network, Italy
Cameroon Ecology, Cameroon	Lead Tchad, Chad
CARE France , France	MADRE, International
Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change Research, Nigeria	Mom Loves Taiwan Association, Taiwan
Center for Support to Local Initiatives Development and Assistance to Vulnerable Persons, Burundi	Organisation des Femmes Africaines et de la Diaspora, France
Centre for 21st Century Issues, Nigeria	Réseau des Femmes Africaines pour la gestion Communautaire des Forêts, Cameroon
Centro de Mujeres Candelaria, Bolivia	Réseau Féministe Ruptures, France
Comité ONU Femmes France, France	Rural Area Development Programme, Népal
Coordination Française pour le Lobby européen des Femmes, France	Rural Integrated Center for Community Empowerment , Liberia
Coordination SUD, France	R20 - Régions of Climate action, France
Dynamique Femmes, Morocco	Travive Greening Madinaty, Morocco
Enlaces por la sustentabilidad, El Salvador	U'Muhoza Foundation for Social Change, Rwanda
Environmental Conservation Initiatives, Tanzania	Women Engage for a Common Future France, France
Equilibres et Populations, France	Women's Environmental Network, United Kingdom
Espace Point de départ, Morocco	Women Environmental Programme, Nigeria
Free the Marginalized Women Advocates, Ghana	Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management, International

For more information, please contact the co-facilitators of the “Gender and Climate Change” working group of the French Gender and Development Platform:

- Fanny Petitbon, CARE France, petitbon@carefrance.org
- Yveline Nicolas, Adéquations, ynicolas@adequations.org